



The NUNES Report

Nunes helps new Majority Leader take office

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After months of speculation and uncertainty, the House Republican Conference elected a new Majority Leader to replace Rep. Tom DeLay, who was the victim of partisan accusations leveled by Texas prosecutor Ronnie Earle. As a result on February 2nd, the Conference elected Rep. John Boehner (R-OH) to be the new Majority Leader.

From the start of the campaign, Rep. Devin Nunes was one of Mr. Boehner's closest allies and top lieutenants who actively worked to gather support for the candidacy. "Devin was one of the first Members I called after I announced my bid, and his early support was critical in my efforts to win the House Majority Leader job," said Rep. Boehner. He also added, "Nunes was especially important in securing the support from many of his colleagues from California."

Rep. Nunes spent the weeks prior to the election working the phones to gauge member's support and helping the Boehner team craft a winning strategy. While the task of gaining endorsements from 117 colleagues wasn't easy, for Rep. Nunes the decision was simple, "Boehner's policy experience as Chairman of the Education and Workforce Commit-



Rep. Devin Nunes speaks with new Majority Leader John Boehner about San Joaquin Valley issues.

tee coupled with his prior stint in Leadership as the Chairman of the Republican Conference make him a natural fit for the job," Nunes said. "He is someone that I have had the opportunity to get to know very well in Washington, and I trust his ability to lead this Majority and Congress in the months ahead."

The election for Majority Leader had three candidates, Rep. Boehner, Majority Whip Roy Blunt (R-MO) and Rep. John Shadegg (R-AZ). A candidate needed support from a majority of the Republican Conference members, 117, in order to win the position. On the first ballot none of the candi-

dates received the requisite amount therefore the candidate with the lowest vote total was removed for the next ballot. Mr. Boehner succeeded on the second ballot with 122 votes.

Rep. Boehner, one of twelve brothers and sisters in a Roman Catholic family, represents the 8th District of Ohio which is located in the west end of the state. After graduating from Xavier University, Mr. Boehner opened a small business and became involved in politics. At the age of 34, he was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives where he sat until being elected to the U.S. Congress in 1990.

Our Mission Statement

To ensure our constituents and all Americans live free and prosperous lives in a healthy and safe environment by serving, communicating, protecting and representing them in a professional and caring manner.

Congressional report gives Valley leverage



Data in a Congressional Research Service report will be useful in ensuring the San Joaquin Valley is not overlooked for federal funding on key infrastructure projects.

Quick Facts

Rep. Devin Nunes maintains two offices in the 21st Congressional District to serve the needs of his constituents. His main office is in Visalia at 113 N. Church St., Suite 208. The telephone number is 733-3861.

His Fresno County office is in Clovis at 264 Clovis Ave., Suite 206. The telephone number is 323-5528.

The final version of a Congressional study detailing the economic and social needs of an eight-county area of the San Joaquin Valley was released in late December.

Rep. Devin Nunes and other Valley members asked for the study nearly two years ago to determine if the area was getting its fair share from the federal government.

The non-partisan Congressional Research Service report revealed that the federal government spends about \$2,400 less per person in the Central Valley than anywhere else in the country, including some of the nation's historically poorest regions.

Rep. Nunes said it was important to compile defini-

tive information on the plight of the Valley to gain additional leverage in obtaining federal funds and grants for the area.

A copy of the 365-page report can be viewed online at www.nunes.house.gov.

The report includes a detailed look at the San Joaquin Valley, including information about poverty and unemployment, social and health issues, environmental and natural resource issues, transportation investment and economic development.

In June 2004, six lawmakers (Reps. Cardoza, Dooley, Nunes, Pombo, Radanovich and Thomas) requested the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service to study the current socioeconomic and environmental concerns in the San

Joaquin Valley.

The study's major analytical focus is the eight counties that largely comprise the Valley (and that represent the six members' Congressional Districts): Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin and Tulare. The report also focuses on the six metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) of the valley: Fresno, Merced, Modesto, Stockton-Lodi, Bakersfield, and Visalia-Tulare-Porterville.

Preliminary data from the report released earlier in the year has already been successfully included in grant applications, one of which was for College of the Sequoias that was fully funded to expand a much-needed nursing program in Tulare County.

Nunes pushing levee protection for Visalia

Rep. Nunes is pushing a measure that would direct the Army Corps of Engineers to evaluate two levees near Visalia and the potential for a construction project to strengthen them.

In a letter to the Chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Don Young, Rep. Nunes requested that Young's Committee pass a "survey resolution" authorizing the Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of providing flood protection for the affected areas and to include the feasibility of bringing these levees up to existing FEMA and Corps standards.

The effort stems from a flood hazard study by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) looking at the Kaweah Distributary System, which include reaches of the Kaweah River, St. Johns River, Mill Creek, Packwood Creek, Cameron Creek, and Persian Ditch.

The entire study is within the 21st Congressional District and is being performed at the request of the City of Visalia. The purpose of the study is to examine and evaluate the flood hazard areas in the community to determine flood elevations and risks. This data will be used by the community to carry out the floodplain man-

agement objectives of the National Flood Insurance Program. It will also be used as the basis for determining the appropriate flood insurance premium rates for buildings and their contents.

During this process, the City of Visalia has been made aware of deficiencies within St. Johns River Levee Districts No. 1 and No. 2. Unfortunately, these two levee districts have been inactive for many years and there has been a lack of maintenance on the levee system under their jurisdiction. City officials were told that FEMA may decertify these levees during the flood study thereby eliminat-

ing, on paper, flood protection for many of Visalia residents.

This would require many residents to pay flood insurance premiums they would not have otherwise paid if the levees were certified.

In light of levee breaches and flooding in Northern California and Louisiana in recent years, as well as heavy rains in 2006, Rep. Nunes said it remains imperative that flood control measures and safety projects are a high priority.

Learn more about what Rep. Devin Nunes is doing by visiting his website at www.nunes.house.gov

Year in Review - Nunes by the numbers

In 2005, Rep. Nunes was busy giving his time to constituents and local industry and interest groups while at the same time fulfilling his obligations to the House of Representatives. In fact, Rep. Nunes held over 461 meetings with constituents, industry and interest groups. He also participated in 141 official activities of the House of Representatives. Rep. Nunes has also attended 62 local events and gave 88 interviews to the media.

Since taking office in 2003, Rep. Nunes has held over 1,392 meetings with constituents and industry groups. He has participated in 312 official activities of the House of Representatives and has given 60 speeches. Rep. Nunes has also attended 246 local events and given 234 inter-



Rep. Devin Nunes, far left, speaks with Secretary of Agriculture Johanns and farmers at the Fresno County Fairgrounds about the Farm Bill.

views to the media.

Other highlights from 2005:

Rep. Nunes cast 671 recorded votes and 362 voice votes on issues that are vital to the United States - a total of 1,033 votes.

More than 168,000 web surfers visited Rep. Nunes'

website. Among the top pages viewed were the ones for tour information, news releases, contact information, Patriot Act information, Rep. Nunes' biography, 21st district profile, the Nunes Report, and legislative issues.

Rep. Nunes wrote to

17,793 constituents in response to their inquiries. Since Rep. Nunes was elected to Congress he has responded to 45,608 constituent letters via the U.S. Mail.

Top 10 Issues in 2005 - Social Security, Judicial, Health, Defense, Homeland Security, Resources, Government Affairs, Environment, Taxes, and Immigration

Rep. Nunes helped 477 constituents overcome problems with government agencies and is currently assisting 539 others. Furthermore, since Rep. Nunes was elected to Congress he has directly solved cases for 1,477 constituents.

Interstate status for 99 moves ahead

State and federal transportation officials are actively pursuing a plan to convert Highway 99 from a state route to a federal interstate.

The discussions began after Rep. Nunes included authorizing language in a federal transportation bill in 2005.

Since he was first elected in 2003, Rep. Nunes has sought to widen Highway 99 from Bakersfield to Sacramento to six lanes. The improvements would increase safety on the congested roadway, as well as improve air quality and help attract new industries to the Central Valley.

By becoming a federal interstate, the highway would be eligible each year for federal money to improve and maintain the roadway for decades to come.

Rep. Nunes has been successful in the past few years to secure federal funds to help pay for the widening of the highway in parts of Tulare and Fresno counties.



House Republicans have year of many accomplishments

House Republicans have a record of achievement that the American people can appreciate, because it is one that is aligned with their own priorities of national, homeland and economic security for this nation, Rep. Devin Nunes said of the past year.

House Republicans have worked to pass the Deficit Reduction Act, the Department of Defense spending bill and the Department of Defense Authorization bill, so that the American people can continue to be assured both economic and national security for their families and loved ones.

While Congress dedicated its efforts to help the Gulf Coast rebuild after the

worst natural disaster in American history, they also promised the American people that we would find ways to pay for the cost. We succeeded in passing approximately \$40 billion in savings; eliminating dozens of wasteful government programs for a savings of \$3.5 billion; and including a "One Percent Across-the-Board Spending Cut" that will save \$8.5 billion.

"For years we have worked on achieving an agreement to explore the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, but have been blocked by the Senate. Accomplishing this will help eventually lower the cost of energy for American families and businesses by lessening our dependence on foreign oil and

increasing our domestic supply," Nunes said.

A landmark number of bills have been signed by the President including, a comprehensive energy bill that will assure Americans energy security, a historic highway bill that will improve our nation's critical infrastructure, a class action fairness bill that will eliminate frivolous lawsuits, a bankruptcy reform bill that will protect consumers and small businesses, the Real ID Act that will streamline the identification process for law enforcement, billions in hurricane relief for those Americans affected by this year's national disasters, and CAFTA legislation that will enhance the trading partnership with Central

America.

House Republicans have passed several bills that now await Senate approval. Those measures include; immigration and border enforcement; an extension of capital gains and dividend tax relief, a permanent death tax repeal, an alternative minimum tax relief, health care liability and access legislation, small business health fairness (AHPs), pension reform, terrorism insurance extension, Katrina tax relief, reform for Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSEs), Child Interstate Abortion Notification, and United Nations reform.